FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 MAY 1986

Syria

Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in the Kremlin during which questions were examined of "stepping up" cooperation in "strengthening" Syria's "defense capability" in view of the "increased threats" emanating from the United States and Israel against Syria, Moscow television reported. In the course of the discussion, Gorbachev asked Khaddam to convey a message to President Hafiz al-Asad affirming the USSR's stand with Syria and its policy against imperialism and Zionism, according to Damascus radio, and it noted that Khaddam also conveyed a message to Gorbachev from Al-Asad regarding the regional situation.

In further reportage on Khaddam's meeting with USSR Supreme Soviet Chairman Andrey Gromyko, Damascus radio revealed that the two sides made a detailed review of the "aggressive U.S.-Israeli threats" against Syria, while Moscow radio's Arabic service noted that the sides expressed their concern over the U.S.' "rash policy." The radio also disclosed that the Soviet side praised Syria's "anti-imperialist policy" and its "firm confrontation" of the U.S. and Israeli "military-political pressure," and affirmed the Soviet Union's intention to continue providing Syria with "comprehensive assistance and support" in the "struggle" against imperialism and Zionism. In a speech cited by Damascus radio during a banquet later the same day, Khaddam asserted that the United States and Israel would be mistaken to believe that they could force Syria to abandon "struggle" for the "liberation" of the "occupied Arab territories," and warned that there will be no "capitulatory settlement" in the Middle East. Although acknowledging the "dimension" of the "danger" confronting Syria, Khaddam emphasized that this will not deter Syria from pursuing its "patriotic progressive course," according to TASS. In his speech, Gromyko referred to the "many-sided" cooperation existing between the two countries and reiterated the Soviet Union's determination to continue rendering "support and help" to Syria, according to another TASS report. Gromyko denounced the U.S. policy of "neo-globalism," TASS reported, which he claimed was aimed at imposing U.S. "hegemony" on the nations, and asserted that the "undisguised threats" against Syria are another manifestation of that policy.

Damascus radio reported Al-Asad's arrival in Damascus following a 3-day official visit to Greece, contradicting an earlier Athens radio report that he was departing Greece for Romania.

In another development, Defense Minister Mustafa Talas in comments to French radio cited by AFP revealed that Syria has conducted negotiations with the kidnappers of the Western hostages in Lebanon and that Al-Asad asked Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to help in securing their release. Talas asserted that had Syria known the whereabouts of the French hostages, it would have freed them, even by "force," according to the report, and he claimed that the U.S. attack on Libya and its "threats" against Syria have delayed the release of the French hostages "for a certain time."

Iraq

Although acknowledging the mediation efforts of Jordan's King Husayn, Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, while in Kuwait, described as "premature" talk of an Iraqi-Syrian summit, according to Radio Monte Carlo, and he noted that "many issues" between the two countries still have to be dealt with. However, "well-connected Arab sources" cited by the Kuwaiti paper *AL-SIYASAH* disclosed that King Husayn has "principally succeeded" in achieving agreement between the Iraqi and Syrian presidents to hold a summit in Amman "shortly." Meanwhile, "informed sources" cited by Radio Monte Carlo asserted that the main aim of Jordan's mediation between Iraq and Syria is to "clear the atmosphere" between the two countries so that an Arab summit can be convened. On the other hand, a commentary carried by Voice of the Masses radio accused Syria of playing a role of "sabotage on Lebanese and Arab levels," and asserted that Syrian President al-Asad is the "intimate ally" of the enemies of Arabism and the Arab nation.

As for the foreign minister's 28 May visit to Kuwait, 'Aziz met with the Kuwaiti amir to whom he delivered a letter from President Saddam Husayn and also met with his Iraqi counterpart, according to INA and KUNA reports. 'Aziz departed for Saudi Arabia later the same day where he held talks with Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah and delivered a message for Saudi King Fahd from President Husayn, SPA reported.

Libya

On the third day of his visit to the Soviet Union, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud held final talks with USSR Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Ryzhkov during which there was an "in-depth" discussion regarding long-term economic ties and "further steps" to strengthen Libya's "defense capability" in light of the continuing U.S. "military pressure" on the Jamahiriyah. Later, Jallud held talks with USSR Defense Minister Sergey Sokolov, according to JANA, which, TASS noted, passed in an atmosphere of "friendship and mutual understanding."

PLO

"Informed Palestinian sources" cited by the Dubayy paper *AL-BAYAN* asserted that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has "acceded" to the wish of the Fatah Central Committee to "abolish" the Amman agreement "soon." In related reportage, the Riyadh paper *AL-RIYADH* reported that the Soviet Union recently informed representatives of Palestinian factions opposed to Fatah that Fatah would abolish the agreement if the factions were to agree to a dialogue leading to Palestinian unity and the convocation of a new PNC session, according to "informed sources." Meanwhile, an official PLO

spokesman condemned UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's recent statement in Israel on the "need" for "substitutes" for the PLO in any Middle East peace negotiation, and reaffirmed that the PLO is the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Sudan

In a statement to Radio Monte Carlo in New York where he is attending the UN General Assembly session on Africa, Foreign Minister Al-Sharif al-Hindi revealed that Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi will travel to Addis Ababa "within a few days" for talks with Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam and SPLA leader John Garang, at Mengistu's invitation.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqis sustained "very heavy losses" during a "relatively severe battle" with the Iranians in the Karareh region, Hajj 'Umran operational sector, according to a communique cited by Tehran radio, which asserted that the clash ended with the Iraqis' withdrawal from the area. For Iraq's part, a military spokesman claimed that Iraqi fighters bombed Iranian troop concentrations in the Dezful and Shushtar areas, "wiping out large numbers" of them, in a statement carried by Voice of the Masses radio.

Israel

In further developments regarding the affair of the Shin Bet director, a "senior Likud minister" cited by Jerusalem television claimed that the "event" was "approved" by Yitzhaq Shamir who was prime minister at the time, and subsequently supported by the then opposition leader Shim'on Peres. On the other hand, in an interview broadcast by IDF radio, Shamir, in response to a question regarding his alleged involvement and knowledge of the "affair," asserted that he knew what a prime minister "is supposed to know" and stressed he "acted accordingly." Knesset member Refa'el Goren said it was his impression after a talk with Shamir 28 May that what took place was on a "local level" and that no order was given for the killings or the cover-up, according to the same television report. Jerusalem radio disclosed that Peres rejected a proposal made by the attorney general "several weeks ago" to dismiss the Shin Bet director in order to avoid an investigation.

In a separate development, Energy Minister Moshe Shahal announced that France "terminated" negotiations with Israel over the sale of a nuclear reactor allegedly due to the pressure of French companies with commercial links with Arab countries, Jerusalem radio reported.

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported a "mass migration" from the Burj al-Barajinah camp 29 May in the wake of renewed fighting there between Amal and Palestinians. A 28 May Voice of Lebanon radio report claimed that 11 persons were killed and 50 wounded in the clashes.

Pakistan

Twenty-five persons were detained, including seven Libyans and an unspecified number of Iranians, in connection with the 27 May bombings in Karachi, Tokyo KYODO reported. In a statement to Riyadh SPA, an official Saudi "source" noted Saudi Arabia's condemnation of these "wrong modes of behavior" and declared that they will not deter it from pursuing its known stands vis-a-vis the Arab and Islamic nation's causes.

OPEC Affairs

The Saudi charge d'affaires in Tehran delivered a written message for Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i from Saudi King Fahd in which Fahd expressed Saudi Arabia's "readiness" to carry out the "necessary cooperation" in connection with the "recovery of the oil situation."

Egypt

Cairo papers cited by MENA reported on a "radiation leak" from a cobalt device at Cairo University following the theft of some of the lead covering the device and from attempts to lift it. However, a subsequent statement by the Nuclear Energy Organization broadcast by Cairo radio stressed that an inspection of the site revealed that there was "no" radioactive leak or contamination, and asserted that the situation is "quite safe."

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Ghazni City Youths Killed in Hotel Explosion

LD281747 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 May 86

[Excerpts] On 26 May the savage counterrevolution martyred four of our compatriots and wounded three others by planting a mine inside the Farukhi Hotel, near Alberuni Street in Ghazni city. the victims of this tragedy include youths and children.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Ghazni that the city's inhabitants, on seeing those martyred and wounded, cursed the perpetrators of this painful incident and strongly condemned this savage and inhuman action of the rebels, which was carried out on the instruction of their imperialist masters, headed by the criminal U.S. imperialism.

Najibullah Addresses DYOA Anniversary Meeting

LD281154 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 27, BAKHTAR — Tomorrow begins from today. The prosperity of the future belongs to our today's efforts. The future will be the way you make it. This was stated by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA CC at the 10th anniversary celebration of the Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan, DYOA, which was marked here today.

He added that learning is the cardinal duty of the Afghan youth. The learning of a profession, science and the preservation of the best traditions of their parents and fore-fathers constitute the obligations of the youth towards their ancestors.

We have now embarked upon the implementation of the first post-revolution five year socio-economic development plan. The plan has envisaged the promotion of the standard of living for every family. This requires rigorous and laborious work and everybody should contribute his best for the implementation of the plan. The youth who are the most energetic section of our society must take an ever wider part in it, Comrade Najibullah emphasised.

It is imperative for the youth, said Comrade Najibullah, to expand their role in the defence of the revolution. The athletic and military camps should be set up in the detachments of the Armed Forces. The DYOA should have its own branches in the residential areas of the tribes. The tribal youth should be trained with the spirit of combat traditions of the Pushtuns, Baluchis and Nooristani's in the border provinces. General secretary of the PDPA called upon the youth to take ever-greater participation in safeguarding the borders of the country.

Revolution means the society's historical innovations and transformations. Such innovations, said Comrade Najibullah, not only should concentrate on the struggle against old, decadent and reactionary phenomena but also to preserve the best traditions of the society. The new generation must transfer the best values of the Afghan society to the future generation.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is a young party and receives its strength from the youth and their revolutionary initiatives. Sixty percent of the ranks of the PDPA is composed of young people aged up to thirty years. One out of two youths who have been admitted to the party is a graduate of the DYOA school. It could not be the other way because the PDPA is a party which is devoted to struggle against anything which obstructs progress and innovations.

The Central Committee of the PDPA, the Revolutionary Council and the Government of the DRA have appraised the great part taken by the DYOA in the mobilisation of the youth for defending the country and the gains of the April revolution. Decision has been made to confer upon the DYOA the red banner to recognise and honour its struggle against the counter-revolution, concluded general secretary of the PDPA, CC.

Keshtmand Speech

LD290656 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 28, BAKHTAR: The sport festival of youths of Kabul was opened in the national stadium on the 10th anniversary of the Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan, DYOA, today.

Addressing the participants of the festival, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, said that Afghanistan is direly in need of healthy, willful and patriotic youths. The party and state of the DRA pay serious attention to the social and moral training of the youths of the country.

The present festival, held with the participation of tens of thousands of youths, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand went on to say, shows that the youth are ever further oriented toward sport and they are confidently getting ready for the future struggles. Under the present conditions, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand continued, defending the country and ensuring national peace seriously require patriotic and military training and readiness of the youths of the country.

In the festival that was arranged in three parts, over 70,000 athletes from different military, civil and educational institutions had participated. When the athletes of the armed forces of the country carried out athletic movements, a group of parachutists of the armed forces of the country dropped in the national stadium. The festival which is held in three parts of olympic, national and local, and military sports, is continuing.

The Democratic Youth Organisation of the DRA, having a membership of 200,000 youth celebrated the tenth year of its founding by launching work contests, competitions in professional skills and sports festivals this year.

DYOA Achieves Success in Mobilizing Youth

LD230655 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 22, BAKHTAR — The ranks of the Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan (DYOA) having friendly relations with over 240 international progressive organisations, have been strengthened qualitatively and quantitatively after the victory of the April Revolution. The DYOA has totally

150 thousand members. This was stated by Farid Muzdak, first secretary of the CC of the DYOA in a press conference held on the occasion of the 10th founding anniversary of the DYOA.

Speaking on the activities of the DYOA for the sound training of young generation and for the implementation of the objectives of the PDPA and the April Revolution, Farid Muzdak added that the DYOA scored great achievements in mobilizing the youth and promotion of their role in revolutionary developments taking place in Afghanistan as well as social, economic and cultural fields.

Over 25,000 youth, Farid Muzdak went on to say, have voluntarily joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of the DRA in order to defend the revolution and to intensify struggle against the imperialistic undeclared war, in the last two Afghan years. Besides, they have established militant brigades in struggling against counter-revolutionary bandits. Likewise, over 2,000 youth, members of the DYOA have voluntarily joined the border forces of the country.

The Afghan youth, by setting up work and construction brigades are actively and collectively participating, he said, in the growth of national economy of the country and implementing socio-economic programmes of the party and revolutionary state.

The number of work and construction brigades of the DYOA, the first secretary of the DYOA CC stressed, increased six-fold in the past five years and over 5,000 students have joined in these brigades last year alone ended March 20, 1986.

In the field of culture, he said, that over 100 thousand persons had been enrolled in literacy courses set by the DYOA. In the eve of the 10th founding anniversary of the DYOA, over 25,000 youth have joined to the DYOA, over 30 per cent of the whole members of the DYOA are peasants.

Commerce Ministry Details Foodstuff Supplies

LD250625 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 24, BAKHTAR: The Food procurement department of the Commerce Ministry of the DRA, provides primary necessities to the people at price cheaper than in the open market, says an article published in Daily *KABUL NEW TIMES*.

It sold about 160,000 tons of foodstuffs during the last Afghan year (ended March 20, 1986), and will sell 215,000 tons of foodstuffs during the current Afghan year, ended March 1986. The department sells its goods through 54 stores in the capital and 17 stores in the provinces. Also, for meeting workers' needs, 12 stores have been set up in some production institutions the article adds.

Besides supplying foodstuffs to 280,000 coupon holders, the department also helps to hold the prices line by selling primary articles to people without coupon through state stores. At present there are 17 state free stores functioning in the capital providing the materials cheaper than in the free market.

The state in addition to providing other facilities to its officials and employees, gives, 71 percent subsidy on flour.

Twenty five to thirty thousand tons of foodstuffs are available in the markets of the city at the moment. At present, 20 markets of foodstuffs are operating in Kabul city and the prices vary according to the requirements of the season, the article concludes.

BAKHTAR Notes Improvements in Agricultural Yields

LD270630 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 26, BAKHTAR — About sixty thousand hectares of land were cultivated improved wheat and barley during the autumn sowing campaign in the last Afghan year, ended March 20, 1986, in Helmand Province alone. This was told by a representative of the agricultural and land reform department of the province to a BAKHTAR correspondent. The wheat harvest will be higner by about 3,000 tons as compared with the last Afghan year. The peasants are satisfied with their yields, said one of the peasants of the Bolan village of the province.

The production has remarkable increased due to the material and technical assistance of the government including the distribution of land free of charge.

5 Killed, 12 Wounded by Police Fire in Darjeeling

BK260318 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] In West Bengal 5 persons have been killed and 12 others injured in police firing in Kurseong in Darjeeling District yesterday. Two of the seriously injured were rushed to the Darjeeling Sadar hospital.

According to official sources, the police opened fire in self defense when the Gurkha National Liberation Front [demanding a separate Gurkha state] supporters, observing a bundh [strike] in Mahanadi Bazaar in Kurseong, turned violent. The injured included some policemen and CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] jawans [personnel].

The situation in the town is reported to be tense but under control.

Prohibitory orders under Section 144 [banning assembly of five or more persons at one place] have been imposed in the town. Regular traffic between Darjeeling and Siliguri Hill (?Chord) Road was totally disrupted. However, plane services between New Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling via Kurseong remained normal.

The district magistrate and the superintendent of police have rushed to the town. The All India Gurkha League has demanded a judicial inquiry into the incident.

Indefinite Curfew Imposed

BK261250 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Indefinite curfew has been imposed in the entire Kurseong municipal area of West Bengal. All educational institutions, central and state government offices, and banks have been closed. However, the essential services have been exempted. Rail and road communication between Darjeeling and Siliguri via Kurseong remained suspended for the 2d day. Additional police and paramilitary forces have arrived and are now patrolling the curfew-bound areas.

The area was affected yesterday following violence in the wake of a bundh [strike]. Five persons were killed and 12 injured in police firing.

Village Protection Force Being Raised in Punjab

BK270335 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] In Punjab a voluntary village protection force is being raised to check terrorist activities. According to official sources, to begin with, such a force will be raised in the border districts of Amritsar and Gurdaspur. Ex-servicemen will get preference in the force.

Meanwhile, three policemen have been arrested on charges of having links with terrorists. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, they include head constables and a constable posted in Gurdaspur District. The Gurdaspur police have also nabbed three suspected terrorists.

As already reported, the condition of the Punjab planning minister, Mr Malkiat Singh, is stable after undergoing an emergency operation in a Canadian hospital to remove the bullets received by him during an attempt on his life. Mr Malkiat Singh was on a private visit to Canada. The attempt on his life was made on Monday while he was traveling in a car in Vancouver.

7 Extremists Arrested in Assam; Arms Recovered

BK240625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] In Assam seven extremists belonging to the so-called Assam People's Liberation Front have been arrested from a hideout in Tezpur. The arrested include the self-styled leader of the organization. The extremists were wanted in connection with a number of murder cases and attacks on policemen. Some arms and ammunition have been recovered from them.

Agreement To Reopen Border Rail Link With Pakistan

BK221614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 May 86

[Excerpt] Indian and Pakistani officials have agreed to reopen the Khokhrapar-Munnabao rail link on the Rajasthan border as soon as possible. This was stated in a joint press statement issued at the end of their talks in New Delhi today. The officials will remain in touch with each other to work out the modalities for reopening the link. An Indian railway delegation will also visit Pakistan in this connection next month or in July. During their 4 days of talks, the two sides exchanged information about the customs, immigration, and health check facilities which will be set up at Munnabao on the Indian side and Khokhrapar on the Pakistan side.

Both sides have to restore a certain length of the rail track. On the Indian side, only about 2 km need to be restored, while Pakistan has a slightly longer stretch to repair. India expects that when the delegations of the two sides meet next, Pakistan will be in a position to give a specific timetable for reopening the checkpost. At their talks in the capital, the two delegations also discussed measures to improve facilities for passengers at the Baga-Atari border.

SWAPO President Departs After 6-Day State Visit

BK270904 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The president of the South West African People's Organization [SWAPO], Mr Sam Nujoma, was accorded a warm send-off on his departure for Bombay from New Delhi this morning at the end of a 6-day state visit to the country. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, his cabinet colleagues, diplomats and other dignitaries were at the airport to see him off. Mr Nujoma will be leaving Bombay for Tehran this afternoon.

Libyans, Iranians Held for Airline Office Bombing

BK281249 Hong Kong AFP in English 1234 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Karachi, Pakistan, May 28 (AFP) — Pakistani police are holding seven Libyans and an unspecified number of Iranians in connection with bomb attacks on Tuesday on the local offices of the U.S. airline Panam and the Saudi Arabian airline Saudia, police sources said. A guard outside the Panam cargo office was blown to pieces and two others seriously wounded when a timebomb hidden in a plastic bag exploded. Within minutes three other explosions ripped through the Saudia office, injuring two others.

Police sources said last night's bombings were being linked to a similar blast on February 9 in a building used by the Pakistan-Libya holding company, a private joint venture. The company's Libyan deputy managing director was arrested on suspicion of taking part in terrorist activities in Pakistan. He is still detained in Karachi jail.

Atomic Energy Official: Radiation Level Decreasing

BK251002 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Chairman of the Pakistani Atomic Energy Commission Munir Ahmed Khan has said there has been no significant rise in radiation levels in Pakistani territory or its atmosphere because Pakistan is situated well away from Chernobyl.

Speaking to a news conference in Islamabad today, he said that as of the 10th of this month there was no noteworthy increase in radiation. However, there was a moderate increase from the 11th to the 17th of this month, which has already started coming down. He said a thorough analysis of the specimens of food and physical matter shows that so far there has been only a slight increase in radiation levels, which is not so significant. He said sophisticated instruments were used in measuring the level of radiation.

State Minister Returns From Visit to China

BK241540 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] The minister of state for justice and parliamentary affairs, Mir Nawaz Khan Warwat, has said that Sino-Pakistan relations have stood all tests of time and will grow in strength. In an interview on his return from Beijing, he commended China for supporting Pakistan's principled stand on the Afghanistan issue.

He led a Pakistani delegation to celebrations marking the 35th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China.

JANG: India, Israel Plan Attack on Nuclear Plant

GF281345 Lahore JANG in Urdu 24 May 86 p 1

[Text] London (JANG Foreign Desk) — A joint Indo-Israel plan has been finalized to attack the Pakistani nuclear plant at Kahuta. This attack may take place at any time. Israel believes that Pakistan is now quite close to manufacturing an atomic bomb and that once it is made, it would naturally help the Arab countries.

A report published in London has confirmed the news that the Government of Pakistan has strengthened its security measures around the nuclear installations at Kahuta. Air defense arrangements have also been carried out at these installations.

The report quotes an interview given by an Israeli leader which states that India and Israel, in their mutual interest, have devised a preemptive air attack on the Kahuta nuclear plant. The report adds that these two countries have a comprehensive plan to sabotage the Pakistani nuclear program.

This plan came to light when a Pakistani Air Force pilot trainee was arrested on charges of spying for Israel. The report adds that the Israeli intelligence department got this pilot enlisted in a Gulf emirate Air Force.

The officer had been sent to Pakistan twice to survey the Kahuta area. When he went to Pakistan for a third time he was arrested by the Pakistani authorities at the airport. A large amount of cash was found on his person. He was taken to Peshawar for interrogation but managed to escape with the help of a government servant. A large-scale hunt was launched by the government and he was arrested again as he tried to cross the border into India.

The report adds that Pakistani authorities suspect that a large number of Israeli agents, who have been trained in the United States, have infiltrated into Pakistani Government organizations. According to these sources, Israeli intelligence recruits agents from Third World countries who are then trained in the United States.

The report also added that an officer from the (Houston) American Academic Department revealed in a seminar held in Washington that Israel was doing its best to find out everything about Pakistan's nuclear capabilities and nuclear installations. A paper read at the seminar on this subject was later widely distributed in India.

The other day, when they attacked the Palestinian camps in Tunis, Israeli pilots made Pakistani authorities further tighten their security measures around Kahuta. Pakistani authorities do not reject the possibility of India and Israel jointly attacking Pakistan at any time.

Technical experts in Islamabad say that Israeli bombers would have to fly a distance of 1,000 miles without Indian cooperation. The possibility is, they say, that Israeli aircraft would first fly to India, then after refueling make their way to Kahuta, which would take them only a few minutes.

India would not attack Kahuta by itself, the experts say.

Pakistan, for its part, has installed ground-to-air missiles around Kahuta and a detachment of a commando force has also been assigned to look after the installations.

Continuing Reportage on Mujahidin Operations in DRA

Soviet Workers Killed, Captured

BK231552 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] According to a report, the mujahidin attacked a military convoy in the Bruzad area recently killing 14 soldiers and damaging a tank and an armored car.

A Soviet gunship guarding the convoy was also shot down.

Another report says the mujahidin attacked a security post in the Tiharkathoob area where some Soviets are working on a copper exploration project.

In this attack five Soviet engineers were killed and one captured.

Fighting in Oruzgan, Paktia

BK241336 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] According to a report from Afghanistan, the mujahidin shot down a gunship helicopter of the Soviet-Karmal regime near Dehrawat subdivisional headquarters in the central province of Oruzgan. This was one of 4 helicopters on a mission to locate a mujahidin center near Dehrawat village. The four crew members were killed.

According to another report, fierce fighting has been taking place in eastern Afghanistan for the last few days. The fighting began after the mujahidin attacked Soviet-Karmal troops in the Zian Khel area of Paktia Province. In retaliation, the Soviet-Karmal troops continuously bombedmujahidin centers on the outskirts of Jazi District.

SRI LANKA

Several Bombs Explode in Eastern Province

BK291115 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Several bombs were exploded in the Eastern Province to commemorate the death of a LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] leader known as Aruna. He was killed by the security forces a few weeks ago while attempting to smuggle arms and explosives from India for an offensive in the Batticaloa District.

Two civilians, two Muslims, and a Sinhalese died and three other Muslims were injured at a checkpoint of the Special Task Force [STE] at Chitanbe in Batticaloa on Monday night. The car had been ordered to halt at the checkpoint at about 2330 [1800 GMT] but had failed to do so.

The situation in Batticaloa had been tense that night as there had been several explosions. As the vehicle had tried to pass through, there had been a couple of explosions in the vicinity and the STF had opened fire at the car suspecting that the vehicle was transporting terrorists. The survivors later told the security forces that they had requested the driver to stop at the checkpoint, but he had ignored their request and attempted to get away for some unknown reason.

Army Outposts Established To Protect Villagers

BK271137 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The Army has decided to establish a temporary Army outpost in the Mahadivullewa for the protection of the villagers in the area. There are about 340 farming families residing in what is known as the Mahadivullewa stage two farming community. Terrorists killed 20 residents of this peaceful farming community last Sunday. Sixteen people were injured, 40 houses burned and others driven out in these attacks. At present, an Army and police unit from Anuradhapura have been stationed in the Mahadivullewa for the protection of civilians.

Security officials investigating the recent attack have established that approximately 2,000 cartridges had been used by the terrorists in the attack. The terrorists had taken 20 villagers to the vicinity of the Mahadivullewa tank, lifted them up and shot them. Some of the residents, who fled the area on hearing the gun shots are now thought to be in hiding in adjacent jungle. Terrorists had burned their houses as they apparently could not find them.

Security was strengthened around isolated Sinhalese villages on the east coast today after Tamil terrorists killed 32 people during the weekend.

Defense Secretary General Sepala Attygalle ordered a review of security arrangements in the region. He said security forces were on alert across the country because there were signs that the terrorists planned more raids to disrupt peace talks.

Tamil Groups Reject Government Offer for Peace Talks

BK281535 Hong Kong AFP in English 1522 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] New Delhi, May 28 (AFP) — Three Tamil militant groups Wednesday rejected the Sri Lankan Government's offer of informal discussions to settle the island nation's ethnic separatist conflict, the PRESS TRUST of INDIA (PTI) reported.

The island's major Tamil moderate group, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), a political party, also turned down the offer, describing it as a "calculated move" to deprive India of its mediatory role in the efforts to end the conflict, PTI said.

Sri Lanka's National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said in Colombo Tuesday that his government was willing to immediately begin informal discussions with Tamil militant leaders structured on the lines of the Geneva proximity talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The minister said Colombo would accept an independent mediator such as the British Commonwealth in resuming a dialogue with the Tamil groups.

The groups that turned down the offer were the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOT), the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) and the Tamil Eelam Liberation Front (TELF), PTI said. They said in Madras that there was no question of resuming talks with the government as long as it persisted in settling the conflict through military means, the news agency said.

The conflict, in which some of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamil minority are seeking an independent country and others more autonomy for the Tamil-dominated north and east, has taken a toll of 1,700 lives in the past 17 months.

The TULF Politburo met in the southern Indian city Wednesday to discuss the offer and concluded that it was designed to "dislodge" New Delhi from its "legitimate" role as mediator, PTI said.

The militant groups, in separate statements, echoed the TULF, saying they could not accept the Commonwealth as a mediator because that would mean a negation of India's role, the news agency said. PLOT was quoted as saying the Commonwealth "only danced to the American tune." The EPRLF felt Colombo's offer was meant to counter India's threat the it would withdraw its "good offices" if Sri Lanka persisted in its military drive, and the TELF saw it as admission that the drive had failed.

Tamil militant groups have their political headquarters in Madras, capital of India's Tamil Nadu State.

Commonwealth Mediation Rejected

BK290310 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] India has rejected the Sri Lankan proposal for Commonwealth mediation in the talks between Colombo and the Tamil groups to solve the island's ethnic problem. The minister of state for personnel, Mr Chidambaram, who led the Indian delegation to Colombo recently, told newsmen in Madras yesterday that the

suggestion is unacceptable. He said no country other than India can play a mediatory role in the talks.

Sri Lanka had told India that it is in favor of holding proximity talks with Tamil groups in a bid to reach finality on Colombo's proposals to resolve the ethnic problem. The proximity talks will mean that delegations from the government and the Tamil groups will be present at the same venue but will conduct the dialogue through an intermediary.

Meanwhile, reports from Jaffna say that the town came under shell fire yesterday for about 3 hours. Six civilians injured in the shelling have been admitted to hospital. No official spokesman was available for comment on the incident.

Terrorists Reportedly in Disarray After Infighting
BK271131 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Terrorist groups based in Madras and those operating in the north of Sri Lanka are reported to be in a disarray following the bloody battles between the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and TELO [Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization].

The Eelam People's National Liberation Front — the ENLF which once grouped four of the major terrorist organizations -- has collapsed after the killing of the TELO leader Sri Sabaratnam by Prabhakaran's LTTE. The other groups of the ENLF have sworn to take revenge on Prabhakaran, who is now reported to be hiding in Madras.

Intelligence sources also told LANKA PUWATH that the LTTE has resorted to new tactics of creating nonexistent groups to cover up their criminal activities. For example, a recent issue of a Tamil newspaper in India, *DINAKANTI*, quoted a hitherto unknown group calling itself the Revolutionary Communist Militants as saying that it was responsible for the Kantalai disaster.

Land Development Minister Returns from Havana Talks
BK231142 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Sri Lanka and Cuba have signed an agreement initiating broad economic, cultural and social ties between the two countries. The agreement was signed in Havana by Sri Lanka's minister of land development, Gamini Dissanayake, and Cuba's economic minister, Ernesto Melendez Bachs. This was disclosed to the SLBC [Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation] by Mr Dissanayake who returned to the island last night after a 6-day visit to Cuba. The minister had held discussions with the Cuban leader, Dr Fidel Castro, and other officials.

Increased economic ties between the two countries was one of the main topics. Another area of discussion was the Mahaweli development program.

The Cuban president has said that his country would be willing to provide assistance for the cultivation of citrus fruits and for dairy farming in the Mahaweli areas. President Castro accepted an invitation to visit Sri Lanka extended by Mr Dissanayake on behalf of President Jayewardene.

Saudi Charge Conveys Fahd Message to Khamene'i

LD281659 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] A written message from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to President Khamene'i was delivered by the Saudi charge d'affaires in Tehran to Mir Salim, chief adviser to the president. In this message, the Saudi king, referring to issues related to OPEC and the state of the world oil market, declared Saudi Arabia's readiness to cooperate regarding the recovery of the oil situation.

Message for Musavi

LD281123 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Saudi Arabian Embassy met and conferred with the prime minister's political deputy, Mo'ayeri, this morning. The Saudi charge d'affaires conveyed a written message from King Fahd to Prime Minister Musavi during the meeting.

Reportage on Visit of SWAPO Leader Nujoma

Welcomed by Velayati

LD272116 Tehran IRNA in English 1850 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 27, IRNA — Leader of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) Sam Nujoma arrived here Tuesday afternoon at the invitation of Iran's Foreign Ministry and was welcomed by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati at the airport here.

The SWAPO leader in a brief interview with reporters upon his arrival at the airport described the Pretoria Government as a 'fascist regime'. Nujoma reiterated that SWAPO would continue its struggle until Namibia achieve its independence and the invading army of the South African apartheid regime is driven out of his country. The veteran African freedom fighter arrived here in the next leg of a trip to New Delhi where he held talks with top government leaders including Prime Minister Rjaiv Ghandi.

Foreign Minister Velayati in his remarks stressed on the need for solidarity among the Third World countries in the fight with arrogant powers. He said that Nujoma's visit to Tehran which coincided with a meeting of the U.N. on the issue of Namibia was an indication of the importance SWAPO attaches to the Islamic revolution of Iran.

The Islamic Republic of Iran severed its trade and diplomatic relations with the racist South African regime after the victory of the 1979 Islamic revolution and has since pursued an active policy in support of the anti-apartheid regimes in Africa. Velayati also said that Iran's strong condemnation of the recent military attack by the South African apartheid regime on SWAPO and African front line countries was a sign of the importance the Islamic Republic of Iran attaches to their struggle.

The visit of the SWAPO leader to Tehran follows another visit by Eron Shehiop, another senior SWAPO member to Iran in April.

Sam Nujoma, son of a farmer in northern Namibia, started his political activities at a young age. In 1959 he was arrested and later exiled for his opposition to Pretoria's rule in his country. He set up SWAPO headquarters in Tanzania and chose armed struggle as the only means of achieving liberation. Most countries in the world as well as the United Nations have recognized the South-West African People's Organization as the only legal representative of Namibia.

Meets With Foreign Minister

LD282315 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] South-West Africa People's Organization [SWAPO] leader Sam Nujoma met with Foreign Minister Velayati today in Tehran. During the meeting, Sam Nujoma conveyed his warm and revolutionary greetings to His Excellency Imam Khomeyni and the revolutionary people of Iran. Praising the Islamic Revolution of Iran, he said: The victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran led to the defeat of U.S. imperialism in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf, and the weakening of all puppets of imperialism and reaction. We feel that your victory is our victory.

Describing the latest developments in Namibia and the inhuman acts committed by the racist regime of South Africa in Namibia, he strongly condemned the attack on Libya by U.S. imperialism under the guise of fighting terrorism. He called the regime occupying Jerusalem and the racist regime of Pretoria agents of U.S. imperialism.

While asking for more help from the Iranian authorities in the fight against the Pretoria regime and U.S. agents in South Africa, Sam Nujoma expressed his deep gratitude for Iran's decision to allow SWAPO to open an embassy. It was agreed that a SWAPO ambassador to Iran would be introduced soon. He called the Islamic Republic of Iran a true friend to the people of Namibia and the protector of the deprived people of Africa. Regarding the imposed war, he said: You are defending your country. In fact, this war is in defense of your revolution and your territorial integrity.

While declaring support for Namibia's independence and the struggles of the people of that country and SWAPO in all international circles and sessions, Foreign Minister Velayati said: Support for the people of Namibia and popular movements in the world are among the foreign policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran and part of the basis of our faith.

Condemning U.S. imperialism against the interests of the people of the region and the Frontline States, Velayati called for greater struggle on the part of Namibians and SWAPO against the Pretoria regime and for cooperation among the countries of the region to fight apartheid and its perpetrators. He affirmed Iran's readiness — as a revolutionary country whose policy is to support oppressed countries and liberation movements — to give decisive support to the struggles of the Namibian people and SWAPO.

Received by Khamene'i

LD282346 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Sam Nujoma, the leader of the Namibian liberation front SWAPO [South-West Africa People's Organization] who arrived in Tehran yesterday at the head of a delegation, met this evening with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president.

At this meeting, also attended by Foreign Minister Velayati, the leader of the Namibian liberation front began by conveying the warm, revolutionary greetings of his Central Committee and the Namibian people. He described the positive results of the president's visit to southern Africa and said: Your visit to southern Africa encouraged all strugglers and those who are still under the yoke of racist regimes. In our movement we believe that the gains of the Iranian Islamic Revolution have been a great help to us because we believe that the defeat of the U.S. puppet in Iran has weakened the United States, the ringleader of fascist regimes, and also the racist South African and Israeli regimes. For this reason, the SWAPO movement regards the Iranian Islamic Revolution as its own revolution.

He went on: Iran's unreserved help and support to the SWAPO movement has been a great source of encouragement for continuing the struggle for the liberation of the people in that part of Africa. The SWAPO leader noted that despite pressures from the racist South African regime and after 20 years of struggle, the movement continues to believe in the liberation of its people. He said: The South African regime is doing in southern Africa what the Zionist Israeli regime is doing in Palestine and southern Lebanon. For this reason, drawing upon the experience of your revolution, we have learned that imperialism and its backers understand no other language except force. For this reason, we are determined to continue our armed struggle and mobilize our people until we have achieved final victory. We have many plans for increasing our political presence at the international level, and will jointly [as heard] condemn U.S. imperialism at all world forums.

In conclusion, the leader of SWAPO expressed his own and the Namibian people's heartfelt gratitude for the Islamic Republic of Iran's practical steps in the early days of the victory of the revolution to cut off oil exports to the South African regime and to end diplomatic relations with the South African and Zionist regimes.

Our country's president, welcoming the visit to Iran by the SWAPO leader and the delegation accompanying him, said: This is your home. The meeting we had with you in Angola was extremely good. We deeply respect your struggles. We hope these struggles will soon bear fruit and we will be able to return your visit. Our country's president added: We believe that only with resistance and struggle can the oppression of the Namibian and South African people be confronted.

Addressing the SWAPO leader, Khamene'i said: You have been engaged in a struggle for a long time. and this struggle undoubtedly will continue to remain a thorn in the side of global arrogance and the South African regime. Khamene'i stressed that South Africa could not continue without the all-round help from the United States and its associates. We believe that the struggle against the South African regime is inseparable from the struggle against the United States and global arrogance.

Khamene'i went on: There is no doubt that the organizations that seriously want to condemn the South African regime should also firmly take a position against the policies of U.S. imperialism. It can never be acceptable to see those who are simultaneously fighting against the South African regime and are hand-in-glove with the United States. This is an oppressive compromise.

In conclusion, the president expressed profound concern for the oppressed Namibian people and said: We can feel the pains of your people, and fully understand the oppression being exercised against your people by the South African regime, by oppressive and plundering companies, and by global arrogance. We believe that the only remedy to this grave pain lies in a violent and uncomprising struggle.

Further Commentary on Thatcher's Visit to Israel

Visit Linked to Elections

GF252028 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1820 GMT 25 May 86

[From the "Behind the News" program]

[Text] Perhaps it is not a coincidence that Thatcher's official visit to occupied Palestine takes place 1 month after the 38th anniversary of the establishment of the Zionist entity. Since then, Britain, which established this entity, has not sent any of its prime ministers to the Zionist entity. Perhaps Britain wanted this entity to become a de facto situation to clear itself of the crime of creating an alien entity and of rendering people homeless by expelling them from their homeland.

Coincidence or planning may be behind Thatcher's visit to occupied Palestine 38 years after the establishment of the Zionist entity and the issuance of a law in Britain revealing secret official documents 30 or 35 years later. Who knows? It may be that British politicians now think that the granting of Palestine to the Zionist movement has become an old document.

At any rate Thatcher, who is currently visiting occupied Palestine for the first time as British prime minister, visited the occupied territories in 1975 when she was the leader of the opposition against the then Labor government. In view of these visits, it may be logical to link them together, particularly after Thatcher (?denied) that the visit will include discussions of the special British plan or a European plan to settle the so-called Middle East crisis. Instead, Thatcher reasoned that the visit willconfirm Britain's independent policy. Is Thatcher therefore unable to confirm the independence of Britain's policy except in occupied Palestine? Taking Thatcher's statements on the independent British policy for granted, linking the 1975 visit to the current visit supports one of the possibilities for the goals of this visit.

The current visit is like other visits by Western politicians when there are parliamentary elections. They want to woo the Zionist lobby which is influential in these elections. The visit to the

Zionist entity and the display of good feelings toward Zionists to the extent of wearing the clothes of their monks and even participating in some of their religious activities show that Thatcher will need the Zionist lobby in the next elections more than in previous elections, particularly after recent elections showed a poor showing by Conservatives in some constituencies and remarkable progress by the Labor Party. Therefore, it is not ruled out that Thatcher's visit will be exploited in the next British elections for herself and for the Conservative Party, which is now suffering from a noticeable deterioration in its popularity.

Tehran Turkish Commentary

GF281108 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 27 May 86

[Unattributed commentary: "Thatcher's Visit to Occupied Palestine"]

[Excerpt] During her 3-day official visit to Israel, Prime Minister Thatcher was to discuss a new peace program to include the United States. The visit was realized in cooperation with Washington in order to complete preliminary preparations for the visit Secretary of State George Shultz will be making to the region during the current month. All this displays the extent of U.S.-British cooperation on matters concerning the region.

The British support for the U.S. air raid against Libya has forced a number of subservient Arab regimes to become weak puppets of the United States. Due to the superficial dignity the Arab regimes assumed as a result of political contacts over the past few years, the imperialists refrained from establishing open relations with the Zionist regime which occupies Palestine. [sentence as heard]

British imperialism, which has contributed to the fall in oil prices and has caused a great material losses for the oil-producing countries, has succeeded in selling arms to Saudi Arabia worth about $4 billion — regardless of the damage Britain has caused.

The weakness and treachery of the puppet Arab regimes, which have gradually increased after the Camp David accords, have taken a new form as a result of Prime Minister Thatcher's visit to occupied Palestine. However, the first stage of Prime Minister Thatcher's new peace plan will only serve to reveal the secret talks between the puppet Arab regimes and the Zionists which have been continuing to date.

The latest initiatives made by the United States and Great Britain have created the understanding that these two countries intend to replace the grudge and hatred felt against Zionism with the hatred felt against what they term terrorism and divert the attention of some Muslims and regimes ruling in Muslim countries from their objectives. In fact, they are trying to describe Syria, Libya, and Iran as the primary enemy, instead of the occupationist Zionist regime.

Undoubtedly, the Muslim people in the region will demonstrate a high degree of awareness and render the plot hatched by the imperialists ineffective.

New Ambassador to USSR Appointed

LD291003 Tehran IRNA in English 0145 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 29, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran has appointed Naser Heyrani-Nowbari, as the new ambassador to the Soviet Union, it was announced Thursday. The appointment was made upon the proposal of Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and approval of President 'Ali Khamene'i. Prior to his appointment to the post, Heyrani-Nowbari served as the director of the Second Political Department of the Foreign Ministry.

Foreign Minister Receives Outgoing Cuban Envoy

LD241109 Tehran IRNA in English 1018 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 24, IRNA — The Cuban ambassador to Tehran, Luis Marisy Figueredo, at the end of his service in Tehran met and talked with Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Saturday. Velayati praised services of the Cuban ambassador in promoting bilateral relations. He also thanked his Cuban counterpart in inviting him to visit Cuba and added that such meetings would be useful in exchanging views before the forthcoming non-aligned summit.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

'Heavy' Iraqi Losses in Hajj 'Umran

LD281734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in a communique issued today, reports that the relatively severe battle -- which began at 0200 yesterday between our forces and those of the aggressor enemy in the Hajj 'Umran operational sector between Height 2,519 and that of Kudu in the Karareh region -- concluded at 0445 yesterday following a close, man-to-man battle when the forces of the Zionist Iraqi regime withdrew and dispersed having sustained very heavy losses and casualties.

In the exchange of fire in the northwestern regions of the country, seven bases, five heavy vehicles and one armored personnel carrier of the enemy were destroyed and a large number of enemy troops were killed and wounded. On the western battlefronts the exchange of fire continued sporadically, the intensity of fire being greatest in the Sumar and Mehran operational sectors. The combatants of Islam, while destroying 6 heavy-weapons' emplacements and observation posts, and setting fire to 3 enemy vehicles, killed or wouded at least 30 Iraqi troops. The Gendarmerie fighters, opening fire on the positions and vehicle columns of the intruder enemy in the southern regions of the country, destroyed 3 ammunition dumps and 11 weapons' emplacements of the enemy, and killed or wounded more than 20 troops of the Zionist Iraqi regime forces.

In the past 24 hours, the city of Abadan continued to be subjected to enemy artillery fire, in the course of which several shops and houses were damaged.

Opposition Paper Warns Saddam, Khomeyni
GF271506 London KEYHAN in Persian 22 May 86 p 2

[Weekly commentary by Board of Editors: "Warning to the War Criminals"]

[Text] Masses of innocents continue to pay for the destructive war continuing between two sinners. Saddam Husayn and Ayatollah Khomeyni are both responsible for this war — one for starting it, the other for continuing it. Saddam Husayn by militarily invading our homeland bit off more than he could chew. Although the Iranian Army suffered a great blow with the advent of the revolution, it has been able to teach a lesson to the Iraqi ruler which he richly deserves. We do not think the Iraqis will easily forget the blow they have received from Iranian nationalism — neither Saddam nor his successor, whoever he may be.

The war was an Iranian war until they took back Khorramshahr. After that it was not an Iranian war. It may be called by any name the propagandists of the Islamic regime give it. In any case, even though the propagandists of the Islamic regime never tell the truth, this time they tell the truth when they say that the enemy is mean. By "mean" we are not saying that the enemy has been armed to the teeth by the superpowers and the medium-powers, but that it does not feel itself bound by any international laws.

The bombardment of a passenger train at Haft-Tappeh, Khuzestan, is a recent example of its meanness, although it is not the only example. The Iraqi Army is a self-indulgent and unmotivated army. No one envies it. It is neither a defensive nor offensive army. Its invading capability was fully visible in Khuzestan and Kordestan, just as its defensive capabilities were known in the Al-Faw operation.

Ayatollah Khomeyni has incited the wrath of his vindictive enemy, Saddam. One can understand this, but what cannot be understood by the Iranian nation is why the innocent people of Iran should pay for this wrath. It is neither in the interest of the Iranian nation nor the Iraqi nation for enmity between two "leaders" to turn into enmity between two nations. Saddam Husayn is treading this very dangerous path by attacking non-military targets.

Although the propagandists and the loudspeakers of the Islamic regime often boast that they will teach a lesson to the Iraqi ruler, so far there have been no signs of regret on his part. However, Iran is not a land which will be always as weak as it is today, unable to carry out its threats. There have never been long periods of time between its ups and downs; we know this from history. The day Iran comes into its own, it will perhaps be too late for the Iraqi rulers to regret their actions. At that time regrets will serve no purpose. The Iranian nation is carrying on this war with reluctance against the Iraqi regime, which claims to be an Islamic regime. We do not appreciate that the Iraqi war machine is let loose against our innocent nation.

If Iraq thinks that through such destructive operations it will make the Iranian nation rise against its rulers, it is again thinking incorrectly. The Iranian nation's patience against this regime is already stretched to its limit and is about to break. The Iranian nation does not need any foreign instigation to make it rise against this cruel regime which is forced on it today. It would be much better for Iraq to not interfere in the dispute which should be settled between the Iranian nation and the current Iranian regime by themselves.

We do not say these words simply for the sake of our national pride. These words are based on all-round calculations and long-range political decisions. When we tell the ayatollah that maintaining or toppling the Iraqi regime is a matter related only to the Iraqi nation, we also mean that this message is for the Iraqi rulers.

We hereby give serious warning to the Iraqi rulers that their attacks on the residential areas and cities and the slaughter of innocent and defenseless Iranian people, as on the passenger train at Haft-Tappeh, will serve no purpose and will be registered as war crimes. They should refrain from such actions because, when Iran seeks peace between the two neigboring and co-religionist nations of Iran and Iraq, its task may become more difficult than it is now.

KEYHAN Discusses Economic Picture, Budget Deficit
GF261320 London KEYHAN in Persian 15 May 86 p 1

[Text] *KEYHAN* News Service — More than half of the country's factories are presently shut-down and the workers of these factories have lost their jobs. It is feared that the remaining factories will also be closed down and that 3 million more workers will be added to the ranks of the unemployed in the country. 'Ali Naqi Khamushi, the president of the Chamber of Commerce, has predicted the closure of the rest of the factories.

Khamushi, who was speaking during the 3-day meeting of the heads of the Chambers of Commerce of the country, stated that the government is facing a 25 percent deficit in the budget and that if urgent measures are not taken to save the country from this economic crisis, the remaining factories in the country would also be shut down and more than 3 million workers rendered jobless. Khamushi did not give any statistics about the factories already closed down or the number of workers already unemployed; he only referred to the closing down of the remaining factories.

The 3-day meeting of the heads of the Chambers of Commerce took place at Kerman last week. Each participant gave an account of the financial difficulties and economic crisis he faced in the area under his jurisdiction. They also complained of a lack of foreign exchange. The meeting was designed to find ways and means to raise state income and earn foreign exchange through exports, but nothing of any consequence transpired. They talked about basing the economy of the country on revenues excluding oil, but finally they decided that merchants should be allowed a free hand in the import and export business in the country. However, none of the participants was able to find a way to meet the $10 billion deficit in the budget caused by the fall in oil prices and production cuts.

From the beginning the government had predicted an oil income of $18 billion. Now this figure has been reduced to less than half.

Moreover, it has also been said that income from direct and indirect taxes was 21 percent less last year than what had been anticipated.

Voice of Liberation Reports on 'Differences' in IRGC

GF190722 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] As you may know, among the important issues being discussed in Montazeri's office in Qom are the differences between the commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] with the personnel at the IRGC Ministry. These differences surfaced some time ago and worsen day by day. Montazeri is personally trying very hard to prevent further problems and clashes within the IRGC. He has also asked other clerics to [words indistinct].

Our correspondent says: In addition to the problems between the IRGC and the people at the IRGC Ministry, the commanders of the [regular] Armed Forces also have differences with the IRGC. There have even been clashes between the two. One clear example of this is the commission investigating the murders of a brigadier general and a colonel of the Armed Forces at the hands of members of the IRGC. According to our correspondent's report, the special commission looking into the recent premeditated murders of Brigadier General Mohammad Bagheri and Colonel Reza Sabet during fighting in Hoveyzeh and Al-Faw began its work yesterday at the military court. Several persons responsible for units in the IRGC are under suspicion for having fired several machinegun rounds at these two Armed Forces personnel, and several members of the mobilization unit and some army NCO's are appearing at the military court as witnesses. However, we have received no reports on the preliminary results of this court case.

Clandestine Radio: Larijani To Purchase Libyan Arms

GF261817 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Larijani, the deputy minister of the Islamic Republic's regime, has joined a delegation already in Libya. Our correspondent reports that Larijani's hasty departure for Libya — in view of his previous assignments which have always pertained to the purchase of arms — has given rise to fresh rumors of a shortage of arms on the battlefronts.

Larijani, who had returned to Tehran from Spain recently after talks at the Institute of National Ordnance Industries in Spain to purchase arms, once again joined Rahmani, deputy chief of the Revolution Guards, and his delegation in the Libyan capital. He will hold talks with the Libyan officials and international arms smugglers concerning Iran's military needs. At the same time that Larijani is engaged in smuggled arms transactions for the Islamic Republic, a Swiss court has sentenced a Swiss gangster and two Iranians in absentia, on charges of selling smuggled arms to the Islamic Republic. The Swiss gangster received a 6-year prison term; Mohammad Shahryan, a 4-year prison term; and Baqer Kushtkar, a 30-month prison sentence.

KEYHAN: Khalkhali Demands Execution of Merchants

GF261221 London KEYHAN in Persian 15 May 86 p 1

[Text] Tehran — Hojjat ol-Eslam Sadeq Khalkhali, the first Shar' magistrate and the current Majlis deputy representing Qom, who is said to be Ayatollah Khomeyni's spokesman in the Majlis, has strongly criticized the revolution courts and the administrative judicial courts. He said that these courts make faces at the revolution. Sadeq Khalkhali stated that the revolution and the administrative judicial courts deal with cases in such a way that if the Shah was alive, they would have acquitted him.

About a fortnight ago one of the Majlis deputies proposed that Khalkhali entrusted with the job of combatting profiteering in the country so that he may execute profiteers in the same way he has counterrevolutionaries and smugglers. During the Sunday session of the Majlis, Khalkhali attacked the merchants severely. He said: These merchants cooperate with the counterrevolutionaries in practice and sell goods given to them by the government at 30 times the price they pay for it. They should be hanged for this. Khalkhali added: They tell us repeatedly: Leave the merchants alone, leave them alone. These people who are known as merchants, most of whom are counterrevolutionaries, must be hanged.

Sadeq Khalkhali hoped that there would be unity between the forces inside the revolution and the regime — unity which would facilitate a final blow upon Saddam. He further said: We must shed our internal differences.

He then strongly attacked and criticized the British Government. He said: We need say nothing. Britain is an old hyena, and everyone knows it. The attack on Britain was in connection with its support to Iraq and the British Government's support to the United States in combatting terrorism.

Najibullah, Karmal Supporters Clash in Kabul

LD250537 Tehran IRNA in English 0528 GMT 25 May 86

["French Clashes in Afghanistan" — IRNA Headline]

[Text] New Delhi, May 24, IRNA — Supporters of Dr. Najib, the president of Afghanistan and of Babrak Karmal clashed in Makrooriyan of Kabul last week following the arrest of Mahmud Barialay the brother of Karmal and Mrs. Anahita Ratebzad, member of the Central Communist Party of Afghanistan.

According to reports reaching here the supporters of Karmal became furious after the arrest of their leaders, and protested against the act to the present government for its unlawful act.

Meanwhile, police arrested some women students who demonstrated against the new government in Kabul last week.

According to Afghan majahidin sources here, one army jeep was attacked by the majahidin killing all its military crew in Chahar Ghalaye Vazirabad of Kabul.